

## **In the Claims**

Please rewrite the claims as follows:

1. (as filed) In an anode for a lithium battery having a conductive substrate coated with a pressed compact of spherical graphite and an ion conducting polymeric binder, the improvement comprising:  
the inclusion of up to from 1.5 to 15% by weight of carbon nano-fibres in said pressed compact.
2. (as filed) The anode of claim 1 wherein:  
said spherical graphite is meso-phase carbon micro-balls;  
said carbon nano-fibres have an average diameter of about 200nm, a length of from 10 to 20mm and an inner core diameter of 65 to 70nm.
3. (as filed) The anode of claim 2 wherein:  
said carbon nano-fibres are included in an amount of from 2% to 9% by weight.
4. (as filed) The anode of claim 3 wherein:  
said carbon nano-fibres are pre-treated vapour grown carbon fibres.
5. (as filed) The anode of claim 4 wherein:  
said nano-fibres were subject to vacuum at a heat treatment temperature of from 40° to 140°C for a period of from 2 to 8 hours prior to mixing with said spherical graphite.
6. (as filed) The anode of claim 4 wherein:  
said nano-fibres were subject to vacuum at a heat temperature of from 45° to 80°C for a period of from 2 to 8 hours after mixing with said spherical graphite.
7. (as filed) The anode of claim 6 wherein:  
said conductive substrate is copper foil.

8. (as filed) In a non-aqueous lithium battery having an anode of a conductive substrate coated with a pressed compact of spherical graphite and an ion conducting polymeric binder, the improvement comprising:

the inclusion of up to from 1.5 to 15% by weight of carbon nano-fibres in said pressed compact.

9. (as filed) The lithium battery of claim 8 wherein:

said spherical graphite is meso-phase carbon micro-balls;

said carbon nano-fibres have an average diameter of about 200nm, a length of from 10 to 20mm and an inner core diameter of 65 to 70nm.

10. (as filed) The lithium battery of claim 9 wherein:

said carbon nano-fibres are included in an amount of from 2% to 9% by weight.

11. (as filed) The lithium battery of claim 10 wherein:

said carbon nano-fibres are pre-treated vapour grown carbon fibres.

12. (as filed) The lithium battery of claim 11 wherein:

said nano-fibres were subject to vacuum at heat treating temperatures of from 40°C to 140°C prior to mixing with said spherical graphite.

13. (as filed) The lithium battery of claim 12 wherein:

said nano-fibres were subject to vacuum at heat treating temperatures of from 45°C to 80°C after mixing with said spherical graphite.

14. (as filed) The lithium battery of claim 11 wherein:

said conductive substrate is copper foil.

15. (as filed) The anode of claim 5 wherein:

said vacuum is from 1 torr (1mm of Hg) to 10 torr (10mm of Hg).

16. (amended) The lithium battery of claim [11] 12 wherein:  
said vacuum is from 1 torr (1mm of Hg) to 10 torr (10mm of Hg).
17. (as filed) The anode of claim 6 wherein:  
said vacuum is about 1 torr (1mm of Hg).
18. (as filed) The lithium battery of claim 12 wherein:  
said vacuum is about 1 torr (1mm of Hg).
19. (as filed) A rechargeable lithium battery having an anode containing graphite as an electro-active component and wherein:  
said graphite comprises from about 1.5 to 15 weight% carbon nano-fibrils.